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October 7, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardians of Students in East Whittier City School District:

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 requires all states to set standards for the development of English language proficiency skills for children learning to speak English. State and federal law require the state to test students learning English each year. The California English Language Development Test (CELDT) is the test used in this state to measure English proficiency.

NCLB also requires the California Department of Education to annually review the performance of each Local Education Agency (LEA) that receives funds under Title III. An LEA can be a school district, county office of education, or direct-funded school. The English learners in these educational agencies must meet three targets:

- Yearly progress in learning English
- Attainment of English language proficiency on the CELDT
- Academic standards in English-language arts and mathematics

LEAS that did not meet one or more of these three targets are required to notify the parents of English learners in their agency that not all targets were met. For the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 school years, the East Whittier City School District did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the English learner subgroup at the local education agency (district) level in English-Language Arts.

If you have any questions about the performance of your child, please contact your local school. For further information on programs within the East Whittier City School District to help English learners attain English proficiency and meet academic goals call Genny Cadena (EL Coordinator) at the District Office.

Sincerely,

Joe Gillentine, Ed.D.
Superintendent